

disclose "every element of the claimed invention identically" and thus cannot at law serve as an anticipatory reference to any of claims 16-37.

Finally, with respect to independent claims 38 and 65 and their dependent claims 39-41 and 66-68, respectively, it is respectively submitted that Benbow fails to disclose the use of an antenna for transmitting measured electricity consumption data to a remote receiving location. Benbow discloses only the use of direct field readings of the measured results as allowed either manually through a visual reading of the display or via an optical data link which similarly requires the physical presence of technical field personnel. As such, Benbow fails to disclose "every element of the claimed invention identically" and thus cannot at law serve as an anticipatory reference to any of claims 38-41 and 65-68.

Based upon the above-described distinctions, it is believed that Applicants have traversed the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejections and that all of claims 1-79 are now in condition for allowance. Acknowledgement of the same is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing comments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the current grounds of rejection and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at his convenience should only minor issues remain after consideration of this response in order to permit early resolution of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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